

The Tithe Is The Lord's

(Genesis 14:18-20; Leviticus 27:30)

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The Tithe is the Lord's Gen 14:18-20 Law 7:30

My Pastor used to say all the time that those who don't believe in tithing never pastored a church. I now know what he means; I have not always been a tither. It was not until shortly after I was married that my viewpoint was changed for me. No I'm not talking about my wife. Although she did insist on it it was the exhortations and challenges that rang out from my pastor that really began to open my heart but finally it was the word of God that brought the conviction of HG. in the area of tithing. Yet there are others that try to dis encourage the practice as being OT Law keeping →

I. The Premiere of Tithing - Many associate tithing w/ OT Law but in fact Tithing pre-dates the Law of Moses: Gen 14:18-20. Abram on the way back from defeating the armies that kidnapped Lot gave a 10th of the spoil to Melchizedek. Melch. is a mysterious priest not found in lineage mentioned in Bible. Heb 7 Equates Melch. as a Type of Christ having a priesthood w/o beginning or ending. Some many scholars believe is early name for Jerusalem.

Most High God! Abram not the only follower of God when called out of Ur of Chaldees. True religion passed down from Adam. This true religion perished. But in the Premiere of Tithing we find Abram giving tithe to God. I heard a preacher say about Abram

II. The Priorities of Tithing - Now
remember that according to Ps 24:1. But God holds special claim to the 10th the tithe Lev 27:30 also Ex 23:19 this tither is to be the first fruits! Ex 13 God lays special claim to the first born son. God is shown as the priority of our lives by his desire for the first fruit tenth. It belongs to Him specifically. He lays special claim to it. So many times we place everything else in the world in front of Him and give him what's left. The O.T. the leftovers were left in field for the poor and the beggars. God is not a ~~beggar~~ King! He has priority over everything else.

III. The Proclamation of Tithing
God brought the proclamation of a prophet when the children of Israel refused to tithe and reveals how God views the withholding of the tithe. Malachi 3:8-11. God views it as stealing robbing. As if they had reached into the pocket of God and stolen from Him what belonged to Him. This robbery had a penalty. Curse. The devourer destroyed the other 90%. A lot of financial didn't have their origins in a missing tithe.

But also there is a positive in this message vs 10 Be obedient, do what I have commanded you to do and there will be blessing from me

IV. The Promise of Tithing - This

- 1) OT law keeping and the NT believer is not obligated to tithe.

What's the truth? I believe that the Word of God is clear that giving 1/10 of our gross income is the duty of every NT believer. And I believe the following passages bare that out.

- 2) This true religion was perverted by others into pagan worship of idols, but even there the principals of giving and owing God are clearly seen.
- 3) ...about Abram who's name was changed to Abraham, that after Abram started tithing, God gave him the ham. But this practice was passed down to Abraham's grandson Jacob who promised God in Genesis 28:22 And this stone, which I have set for a pillar, shall be God's house: and of all that thou shalt give me I will surely give the tenth unto thee.
- 4) Psalms 24:1 The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.
- 5) Leviticus 27:30 And all the tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land, or of the fruit of the tree, is the LORD'S: it is holy unto the LORD.
- 6) Exodus 23:19 The first of the firstfruits of thy land thou shalt bring into the house of the LORD thy God...
- 7) Numbers 18 clearly shows that this tenth of all Israel was to support the lives of the priests and their ministry and maintenance of the Tabernacle. It was a necessity!

Apostle Paul echoed this promise in 2 Corinthians 9:6 But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully.

Promise is echoed in the new Testament by the Lord Jesus in Luke 6:38. When the windows of heaven are opened and the blessings of God are poured out the person ~~says~~ that the blessing received will not be like the ruffel's petals clip bag, 25 chips and half a bag of air. Not pressed down keep in gear! God sees try my promise, I did, I drew a line in the sand, clinging to be checked to God. God has blessed and met spiritual and financial needs time & again No last of verse. The amount you receive of the blessings of God directly proportional to amount given.

V. The Principle of Tithing - But

The question of Tithing is the dispute that it is only an O.T. Law and we have been freed from the Law. But notice how Jesus handled this subject of Giving. Matt 23:23. The scribes and pharisees very exacting. Tithed even the herbs of the garden. Jesus could have said God really doesn't want you to be so exacting with the tithe, but he is more concerned w/ the weightier matters: Judgment, mercy, faith. No this ye ought to have done. Remember the tithe

transcends the law therefore when Jesus was given apparently to rework or ~~reword~~ or even minimise the tithe He did not do.

VI. The Practice of Tithing - Just as church attendance, Prayers, Bible reading

soul-winning are to be part of the exercise
of our Christian life so should tithing.
1 Cor 16:2 You see each week God has
prospered you 100%. Within that 100% on top there
is 10%, that God requires you to give back
to Him. He has entrusted it to you for the invest-
ment into His Kingdom. Your practices should
be to return it to Him through your local church
Dr RV Clearwater, Minnesota. 2 Cor 8:1-5 holds
the key to the practice of giving; They gave
themselves to God. The reason many nevertheless
is that they have not given themselves to God. It's you,

IV The Picture of Tithing - Mk 12: 41-44. Note that Jesus was watching. He
saw all those that came up to the coffin
to give. I make it a point not to know
what any person gives at this church. But
the Lord knows, the Lord sees. The practice
was for the rich in Jesus day to blow great
trumpets and use hand censers for all to see how
much they gave. Jesus sees the proportion
that this widow gave, and found it greater
than any other. Your tithe may not seem
much but Christ sees your want, your
need and will supply it. For all of us here
God has been faithful when we went. He will do no less.

VII. Closing - I recently heard of a study
a sociologist did concerning wealth among
the protestant conservatives. She was trying to

- 1) 1 Corinthians 16:2 Upon the first day of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as God hath prospered him...
- 2) Clearwater: Every case of giving that received special mention in the NT was cited because it went beyond the tithe. The tithe then we may infer did not deserve honorable mention because it was ones plain and known duty.
- 3) She was trying to give a reason why so many protestant conservative Christians were not as wealthy as their social counter parts. Her conclusions were that protestant conservative Christians actually believe the Bible when it says Psalms 24:1 *The earth is the LORD'S, and the fulness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein.* They believe the words of Jesus "*Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal: But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:*" I wonder if she did the study on you would she come to the same conclusion. The God has a pre-eminent position in your finances. That you put your money where our mouth is.